

IN THE CLAIMS:

13. (Amended) A reciprocating saw comprising:
 - a housing including a first grip surface for an operator's first hand and a second grip surface for an operator's second hand;
 - a motor supported by the housing;
 - a spindle movably supported by the housing, the spindle having an end adapted to support a saw blade;
 - a drive mechanism connected between the motor and the spindle to reciprocally drive the spindle relative to the housing upon operation of the motor;
 - a shoe for engaging a surface of a workpiece;
 - a shoe support member supporting the shoe, the shoe support member being movably supported by the housing;
 - a locking assembly operable to lock the shoe support member in a position relative to the housing;
 - a lever for operating the locking assembly between a locked condition, in which the shoe support member is locked in a position relative to the housing, and an unlocked condition, in which the shoe support member is movable relative to the housing, the lever being supported on the first grip surface such that, during operation of said saw, the operator's first hand engages the first grip surface and the lever and thereby maintains the lever in a locked position corresponding to the locked condition of the locking assembly; and
 - a retainer member supported by the housing and defining a channel, wherein the shoe support member is movable in the channel; and
 - wherein the housing defines a slot, the retainer member being supported in the slot.

14. (Amended) A reciprocating saw comprising:

a housing including a first grip surface for an operator's first hand and a second grip surface for an operator's second hand;

a motor supported by the housing;

a spindle movably supported by the housing, the spindle having an end adapted to support a saw blade;

a drive mechanism connected between the motor and the spindle to reciprocally drive the spindle relative to the housing upon operation of the motor;

a shoe for engaging a surface of a workpiece;

a shoe support member supporting the shoe, the shoe support member being movably supported by the housing;

a locking assembly operable to lock the shoe support member in a position relative to the housing;

a lever for operating the locking assembly between a locked condition, in which the shoe support member is locked in a position relative to the housing, and an unlocked condition, in which the shoe support member is movable relative to the housing, the lever being supported on the first grip surface such that, during operation of said saw, the operator's first hand engages the first grip surface and the lever and thereby maintains the lever in a locked position corresponding to the locked condition of the locking assembly; and

a retainer member supported by the housing and defining a channel, and wherein the shoe support member is movable in the channel;

wherein the locking assembly includes a locking member engageable with the shoe support member to lock the shoe support member in a position relative to the housing, the locking member including a first end and a second end, and wherein the retainer member defines a first opening and a second opening respectively receiving the first end and the second end of the locking member.

REMARKS

Claims 2-3, 5-14 and 23-30 are pending. The Examiner finally rejected Claims 2-3, 5-12 and 23-30 and objected to Claims 13-14. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that Claims 13-14 include allowable subject matter.